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CLAIM AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Please cancel claim 12 without prejudice, and add new claims 22-26 such that the claims read as follows:

1. (Original) A portable audio player comprising:
a communication port for facilitating bi-directional communication between the portable audio player and a peripheral device; and
a processor operatively coupled to the communication port, the processor adapted to determine a bit rate associated with communications from the peripheral device.
2. (Original) The portable audio player of claim 1, wherein the communication port operatively couples the portable audio player to the peripheral device via a wired connection including a number of bus lines.
3. (Original) The portable audio player of claim 1, wherein the communication port operatively couples the portable audio player to the peripheral device via a wireless connection.
4. (Original) The portable audio player of claim 1, further comprising:
a universal asynchronous receiver transmitter for transmitting and receiving communications to and from, respectively, the peripheral device via the communication port.
5. (Original) The portable audio player of claim 1, wherein the processor has access to a transceiver adapted to transmit and receive communications to and from, respectively, the peripheral device via the communication port.
6. (Original) The portable audio player of claim 1, wherein the processor determines the bit rate associated with communications from the peripheral device by adjusting a receiving bit rate associated with the portable audio player until a known character transmitted by the peripheral device is recognized by the portable audio player.

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7. (Original) The portable audio player of claim 1, further comprising:
a storage unit for storing data received from the peripheral device.
8. (Original) The portable audio player of claim 1, further comprising:
a display unit for displaying information received from the peripheral device.
9. (Original) The portable audio player of claim 1, wherein the peripheral device receives its power via the communication port from a power source included in the portable audio player.
10. (Original) A portable audio player comprising:
a communication port for facilitating bi-directional communication between the portable audio player and a peripheral device;
a transceiver operatively coupled to the communication port, the transceiver for transmitting data to the peripheral device and for receiving data from the peripheral device; and
a processor for adapting the transceiver to a bit rate associated with the peripheral device.
11. (Original) A method for establishing a bi-directional communication link between a portable audio player and a peripheral device, the method comprising:
transmitting known data from the peripheral device to the portable audio player at a peripheral device bit rate;
determining the peripheral device bit rate in response to the portable audio player recognizing the known data; and
confirming a valid communication link at the peripheral device bit rate.
12. (Canceled).
13. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the bi-directional communication link between the portable audio player and the peripheral device is a wireless connection.

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14. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the step of determining the peripheral device bit rate in response to the portable audio player recognizing the known data further comprises:

adjusting a receiving bit rate associated with the portable audio player until a known character transmitted by the peripheral device is recognized by the portable audio player.

15. (Original) The method of claim 11, further comprising:
storing data received from the peripheral device in the portable audio device.

16. (Original) The method of claim 11, further comprising:
displaying information received from the peripheral device with the portable audio device.

17. (Original) The method of claim 11, further comprising:
powering the peripheral device from a power source included in the portable audio player.

18. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the step of confirming a valid communication link further comprises:
transmitting a reply character from the portable audio player to the peripheral device at the peripheral device bit rate; and
in response to the peripheral device recognizing the reply character, confirming a valid communication link.

19. (Previously Presented) A method for establishing a bi-directional communication link between a host device associated with a first bit rate and a peripheral device associated with a second bit rate, the method comprising:

at the host device, receiving a known character from the peripheral device at the second bit rate;
in response to the host device not recognizing the known character, adjusting the first bit rate;

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repeating the receiving and adjusting steps until the host recognizes the known character thereby indicating that the adjusted first bit rate matches the second bit rate; and in response to the host device recognizing the known character, transmitting a reply character at the adjusted first bit rate to the peripheral device to confirm a valid bi-directional communication link between the host device and the peripheral device.

20. (Original) A method for establishing a bi-directional communication link between a host device and a peripheral device, the method comprising:

transmitting a known character from the peripheral device to the host device at a peripheral device bit rate;

at the peripheral device, receiving a reply character from the host device at a target bit rate that potentially matches the peripheral device bit rate; and

in response the reply character matching a known reply character, confirming the target bit rate as matching the peripheral device bit rate thereby establishing a valid bi-directional communication link between the host device and the peripheral device.

21. (Previously Presented) The portable audio player of claim 7 further comprising: an audio port adapted to output an audio signal related to an audio file while the storage unit is storing non-audio data received from the peripheral device via the communication port.

22. (New) The portable audio player of claim 1, wherein the communication port is a universal serial bus (USB) port.

23. (New) The portable audio player of claim 1, wherein the communication port is an enhanced parallel port (EPP).

24. (New) The portable audio player of claim 1, wherein the communication port is an IEEE 1394 port.

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25. The portable audio player of claim 1, wherein the peripheral device is a remote control.

26. The portable audio player of claim 1, wherein the peripheral device is a pulse rate monitor.